

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for the enhancement of the blood microcirculation and/or the oxygen supply of the skin of the lower extremities in a patient in need thereof, which method comprises administering an effective amount of an aqueous extract of red vine leaves to the patient, the effective amount adapted to effect in the patient a Laser Doppler Flowmetry frequency increase between about 127 to about 194 in the 10–37 kHz range after 3 weeks from the beginning of treatment.

2. (currently amended) A method for prevention of skin changes including prevention of blood clots in the veins or inflammatory reactions in small vessels associated with chronic venous insufficiency, chronic venous hypervolaemia, and/or venous hypertension of the lower extremities in a patient in need thereof, which method comprises administering an effective amount of an aqueous extract of red vine leaves to the patient, the effective amount adapted to effect in the patient a Laser Doppler Flowmetry frequency increase between about 127 to about 194 in the 10–37 kHz range after 3 weeks from the beginning of treatment.

3. (currently amended) A method for prevention or delay of the transition from clinically not relevant early stages of chronic venous insufficiency (CVI) to CVI Stage I, II, or III in patient in need thereof, which method comprises administering an effective amount of an aqueous extract of red vine leaves to the patient, the effective amount adapted to effect in the patient a Laser Doppler Flowmetry frequency

Increase between about 127 to about 194 in the 10–37 kHz range after 3 weeks from the beginning of treatment.

4. (currently amended) A method for the enhancement of the blood microcirculation and/or the oxygen supply of the skin of the lower extremities in a patient in need thereof, which method comprises administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an aqueous extract of red vine leaves and an excipient or carrier, the effective amount adapted to effect in the patient a Laser Doppler Flowmetry frequency increase between about 127 to about 194 in the 10–37 kHz range after 3 weeks from the beginning of treatment.

5. (currently amended) A method for prevention of skin changes including prevention of blood clots in the veins or inflammatory reactions in small vessels associated with chronic venous insufficiency, chronic venous hypervolaemia, and/or venous hypertension of the lower extremities in a patient in need thereof, which method comprises administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an aqueous extract of red vine leaves and an excipient or carrier, the effective amount adapted to effect in the patient a Laser Doppler Flowmetry frequency increase between about 127 to about 194 in the 10–37 kHz range after 3 weeks from the beginning of treatment.

6. (currently amended) A method for prevention or delay of the transition from clinically not relevant early stages of chronic venous insufficiency (CVI) to CVI Stage I, II, or III in patient in need thereof, which method comprises administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an aqueous

extract of red vine leaves and an excipient or carrier, the effective amount adapted to effect in the patient a Laser Doppler Flowmetry frequency increase between about 127 to about 194 in the 10–37 kHz range after 3 weeks from the beginning of treatment.

7. (original) The method according to one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the composition is suitable for oral administration.

8. (original) The method according to one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the red vine leaf extract contains from 2% to 20% flavonoids.

9. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the red vine leaf extract contains from 2% to 20% flavonoids.

10. (original) The method according to one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the red vine leaf extract contains from 2% to 10% flavonoids.

11. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the red vine leaf extract contains from 2% to 10% flavonoids.

12. (original) The method according to one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the flavonoids comprise 0.1% to 15% by weight of the composition.

13. (original) The method according to one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the flavonoids comprise 1% to 10% by weight of the composition.

14. (original) The method according to one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the red vine leaf extract comprises 1% to 90% by weight of the composition.

15. (original) The method according to one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the red vine leaf extract comprises 1% to 70% by weight of the composition.

16. (original) The method according to one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the red vine leaf extract comprises 1% to 50% by weight of the composition.

17. (original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the composition is a film tablet or capsule.

18. (original) The method according to one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the composition is administered in dosages corresponding to 80 mg and 1000 mg of extract daily.

19. (original) The method according to one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the composition is administered in dosages corresponding to 300 mg and 800 mg of extract daily.

20–22. (cancelled)